esteemed Italian families in Memphis. Mrs. Foster is a woman of culture and refinement and is prominent in the club and social circles of the town. She is devoted to her children and her home and is a delightful hostess. Mrs. Foster is a member of St. Peter's Roman Catholic church and the children likewise belong to that church. To Mr. and Mrs. Foster the following children have been born: Thelma, who is now Mrs. W. J. Crosby; Katherine; James Madison; Geraldine; Louise; Sidney; and Ann. The eldest son, James Madison, is now a student in the University of Alabama, where his father and grandfather were students before him. One child died in infancy.

Fraternally Mr. Foster is a Master Mason, a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine. He was made a Mason in 1889, when he became a member of the De Soto Lodge. He is a firm believer in fraternal affiliations and is conceded to be an exemplary member of the craft. Mr. Foster belongs to the Episcopal church and is a generous contributor to its support. He maintains an active interest in civic affairs, being ever cognizant of the duties and responsibilities, as well as the privileges of good citizenship.

LAURIN BRYAN ASKEW.

An enterprising citizen of Clarksville is Laurin Bryan Askew, wholesale and retail druggist. He was born in Eufaula, Alabama, on the 29th of August, 1863, a son of Bryan and Mina J. (McLaurn) Askew, the former a native of Mississippi of English descent and the latter likewise a native of Mississippi and of Scotch descent. The paternal ancestors came from England to America at an early day and the name Bryan has been carried through the family for generations. The maternal grandmother was a member of the Stuart family and a native of Mississippi. Prior to the Civil war Bryan Askew was engaged in the mercantile business in Vicksburg. Upon the outbreak of the war he sent his family to Alabama and while in that state the birth of Laurin Bryan occurred. Immediately after the war the family returned to Vicksburg and found that city a more or less devastated place. The Federal soldiers had burned the goods and the store belonging to the father and subsequently Mr. Askew set out for New York to get a new supply. He was taken off the boat at Memphis quite ill, however, and his demise occurred a short time afterward at the old Gayosa Hotel. Bryan Askew's father was the son of Bryan Askew, a native of North Carolina, who was the progenitor of this branch of the family in Mississippi, having located in Hinds county.

In the acquirement of his early education Laurin Bryan Askew attended the common schools of his native state and at the age of ten years came to Clarksville. He enrolled in Stewart College, later the Southwestern Presbyterian University, and after completing his course there became associated with the firm of Owen & Moore, druggists, the business which he and his partner, G. W. Coulter, now own. They are engaged in the wholesale and retail drug business and carry a complete line of books, stationery and sporting goods. Mr. Askew is a man of well proven ability and well merits the success he has achieved. In addition to the drug business he is active in financial circles as a director in the Northern Bank of Tennessee, the oldest bank in the state and one of the very few that withstood the ravages of the Civil war. Mr. Askew is also on the finance committee of the institution.

On the 11th of November, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Askew to Miss Florence Fleming, the adopted daughter of John F. Couts. They have become parents of three sons: L. B., Jr., John Couts, and Harley L. L. B., Jr., married Leisel Hoevel of Weisbaden, Germany. John Couts married Barbara Barker, granddaughter of Childs Barker, a prominent banker and farmer of Christian county, Kentucky. John Couts is engaged in farming in that county and he and his wife are the parents of four children, Barbara, Laurin B. (III), John Couts, Jr., and Peter M. Harley L. married Norine Harrison, a daughter of a prominent and honored old family of Robertson county. Both L. B., Jr., and Harley L. are veterans of the World war. The elder son served under General Pershing, going to France with the First American Expeditionary Forces, and was attached to the Third Army Cavalry, participating in the battles of Chateau Thierry and St. Mihiel, and was gassed. Upon the signing of the armistice he was transferred to Travis, Germany, with the Army of Occupation and was later transferred to Paris, where he was with

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General Richardson, who was a member of the Peace Council. At one time, while on leave in England, L. B. Askew found the name "Bryan Askew" on a tablet in the First Scotch Presbyterian church in Trafalgar Square, London, this name being listed as one of the founders of the church. Harley L. Askew was with the Thirtieth Tennessee Division which assisted in breaking the Hindenburg line. He served with the rank of sergeant major.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Askew has given his political endorsement to the democratic party and the principles for which it stands. Although he has never sought nor desired public preferment, he is ever cognizant of the duties and responsibilities as well as the privileges of good citizenship, and to that end is active in the furtherance of every movement for the upbuilding of the town, county and state. His religious faith is that of the Presbyterian church, to the support of which he is a generous contributor, and fraternally he is identified with the Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of Pythias.

HORATIO THOMAS BRUCE.

Horatio Thomas Bruce is the vice president of the Oppenheimer & Bruce Horse & Mule Company, Incorporated. This company has built up an extensive business in the sale of horses and mules, furnishing animals for all kinds of work. Mr. Bruce is a native son of Maryland, his birth having occurred in Cumberland, Allegany county, on the 9th of April, 1854. He is a son of Henry and Lavina (Thistle) Bruce, both of whom are deceased. The father, a lawyer by profession, was a native of Scotland and the mother was also born in the land of hills and heather. There they were reared and married and immediately afterward they sailed for the United States, making their way first to Reisterstown, Maryland, while subsequently they removed to Cumberland. There the father passed away, but the mother's death occurred in San Diego, California.

Horatio T. Bruce was reared in Cumberland, Maryland, and never went to school a day in his life, for about the time he should have entered school the Civil war broke out and at the close of hostilities his father died, leaving a large family, the support of whom devolved upon the son. In 1870 he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he conducted a small grocery store for two years, and later he moved to Le Roy, Illinois, where for an equal period he bought and sold hay and grain. While in that business he brought the first Dedrick hay press to Illinois. For a year or two he made considerable money in that business, but the wet summer of 1875 proved ruinous to the hay trade. He then made his way southward to Nashville, Tennessee, where he began dealing in horses and mules, following the business there for a period of ten years, after which he removed to Memphis in 1885. He has engaged in dealing in horses and mules since 1875, or for a period of more than forty-seven years, and is one of the best known and oldest dealers in the south. In fact, he is known through his business connections throughout the United States. His honorable dealing has gained him a most enviable reputation through both the north and the south. He admitted H. C. Oppenheimer to a partnership and thus the present firm came into existence. They handle railroad mules, levee mules, transfer mules, log mules, cotton mules and farm mules and, in fact, furnish mules trained for almost every kind of work. They also deal in horses and they are managers for the Illinois Central and the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Stockyards. From 1885 until 1920 the business was carried on under the name of H. T. Bruce & Company and Mr. Bruce has probably handled more horses and mules than any other dealer in the south. His banner year was 1890, when he handled nineteen thousand, eight hundred and ten horses and mules. The business has from the beginning been a profitable one and the enterprise, progressiveness and thorough reliability of Mr. Bruce have constituted the foundation of his success.

On the 22d of November, 1890, at Highland, Kansas, Mr. Bruce was married to Miss Valeria Hutt, a native of Missouri, and they have become parents of four children who are yet living: John P. J. Bruce, the eldest, is a veteran of the World war, having served in the aviation department as instructor; Genevieve, the second of the family, is now the wife of Beverly M. Clarke of Memphis; Valery Hutt is now attending an eastern school; Horatio Thomas, Jr., twelve years of age, is also in school.

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